

Bradley Beach Environmental Commission

July 6th, 2020

In attendance—Arye, Rona, Geoff, Meredith, John (Council Liason), Dan, Brandon (Sustainable Jersey Fellow)

Agenda

- 1.) Welcome: 7:04 PM
- 2.) Approval of June Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion: Geoff
 - b. Seconds: Rona
- 3.) Old Business
 - a. Reschedule of Education/Outreach Events (ex. Arbor Day/Salem Oak) (All)
 - i. (On agenda as a reminder)
 1. No action this month
 - b. Tree Protection Ordinance/Shade Tree Update (John/Meredith)
 - i. Ordinance/Planning Board Update (John/Meredith)
 1. Planning Board can only make comments on whether Ordinance is consistent with Master Plan
 2. Other Board members wanted to add things to legislation
 3. Environmental Commission can draft memo on our position on Ordinance or any amendments/changes to the Ordinance
 - a. We can pass any items along to John to liaise with the Council
 - i. E.g. no stapling or nailing to trees by contractors or others
 - ii. Council Meeting on 6/14
 - c. LED Lighting Update (Rona)
 - i. Come back to this in August (on agenda as a reminder)
 - ii. New contact; Rona will have something by next month
 - d. 2019 Report Update (Meredith/Rona)
 - i. 6/14 Council Meeting?
 - ii. Rona asks if we could instead announce our Sustainable Jersey re-certification
 1. Rona has drafted a press release to share with BBEC and ultimately the Council
 - iii. John thinks an annual report should be uploaded to our website and sent to the Mayor/Council/Borough Administrator
 - iv. Meredith will send the most updated copy of the report to BBEC for review before sending off
 - e. Complete Streets Technical Assistance Project (Meredith/Liz)
 - i. General Update – nothing to report. Walkability tour is at end of Month.
 1. Walkability survey will be virtual
 - a. Public participation encouraged (BBEC especially)
 - b. Meredith will send link (July 21st)

- c. Will be held on Zoom (person will walk through town or already has)
 - f. Bradley Beach Energy Fellow Update (John)
 - i. There will be a webinar on energy aggregation (amongst communities) at the end of the month
 - ii. Geoff will bring contact from Asbury Park who is working on this with other communities (Maplewood, Long Branch, Eatontown)
 - 1. Residents and businesses can participate in this cooperative program to lower energy costs (opt-out program)
 - iii. Brandon will be working for the town (along with other towns); will be working on energy efficiency and auditing
 - 1. Will be looking at Sustainable Jersey actions that we can accomplish
 - 2. Gather data on energy consumption for the State to audit/examine and to determine whether we qualify for State financing
 - iv. Fellows were trained by Environmental Defense Fund
 - v. Outreach to businesses regarding the Clean Energy Program run by the State
 - g. Maritime Forest Discussion (Meredith/John/AI) – Continued discussion from January
 - i. Corporate wetlands restoration grant
 - 1. Conglomerate of different companies that come together to cover costs
 - a. Will donate up to 25% of project costs
 - ii. Need to re-shell all walking paths and will be planting more native species in the parking location (expanding the forest)
 - iii. Budget- \$4,000
 - 1. Benches
 - 2. Weed barrier
 - 3. Plants
 - 4. Labor
 - 5. Shell
 - iv. BBEC has \$2,500 available funds to appropriate if necessary
 - v. VOTE to allocate \$1,000 to Maritime Forest project:
 - 1. In favor: Geoff, Rona, Meredith, Arye
 - 2. Against: -
 - h. Charging Station Webinar – did anyone attend? (Meredith)
 - i. Rona was on the webinar
 - 1. Businesses are not thrilled about it because it takes up parking spaces (must be strategic where we place)
 - ii. Perhaps we should focus on electrifying town vehicles rather than charging stations
 - 1. Resolution to buy electric vehicles next time we replace them?
 - i. Did I miss anything?
- 4.) New Business
 - a. Social Justice Education Campaign (Arye/Liz/Meredith)
 - i. Essay contest asking students what environmental justice means to you, what are the implications in Bradley Beach?

1. Maybe compile essays into a journal to disseminate to community
 2. John will reach out to Environmental Club teacher
 - ii. Coupled with some type of lecture/session
 - iii. Possibly add a scavenger hunt that teaches them about different aspects of environmental injustice and about the environment more generally
 1. Geoff will start identifying sites and we can use AI as a resource for this
 - b. Maritime Forest Field Trip (AI)
 - i. Kean University students will come October 2nd to plant dune grass
 - c. Introduction of Brandon (John/Brandon)
- 5.) Adjourn 8:05 PM
- a. Motion: Geoff
 - b. Seconds: Rona